

fighting, public sanitation, snow removal, street maintenance, recreation, and of course education are carried out along with a number of other activities essential to the quality of our lives, especially in urban areas, at the local government level. R. Arnold Wakelin was a gifted individual who, fortunately for the people of the town of Wellesley, chose to employ his considerable talents on behalf of the fellow citizens of the town he loved and served so well.

He began his work for the town in 1957 after leaving the Air Force where he served for 3 years, and his ability and dedication quickly led to a series of promotions which culminated in his being the Chief Executive of the town. In addition, he served on the town's retirement board and he was a leader in the Wellesley Kiwanis Club, additional outlets for his desire to serve his fellow citizens. Mr. Speaker, I join with the residents of the town in mourning his passing while celebrating and expressing thanks for his extraordinary service. The example he set of effective concern for the well being of others is an inspiring one and I ask that the recognition by the town of Wellesley of the wonderful career of Arnold Wakelin be noted here.

RESOLUTION IN MEMORY OF R. ARNOLD WAKELIN, JR.

Whereas, on November 8th 2004, the Town of Wellesley was saddened by the death of our esteemed Executive Director of General Government, R. Arnold Wakelin, Jr. Arnold made numerous and impressive contributions to the Town of Wellesley and its residents throughout his forty-seven years of service. With his passing, Wellesley lost a dedicated leader and faithful friend;

Whereas, in addition to Executive Director, Arnold served as a valued member of the Town's Retirement Board. He was also an active member of the Wellesley Kiwanis Club for over forty years, having served as President and most recently Treasurer. Arnold served our community with a deep sense of commitment and devotion. He earned the regard and heartfelt respect of all who were privileged to know him;

Whereas, Arnold gave earnestly of his time to our community and we think of the many citizens who have benefited from his leadership and participation in the Town of Wellesley. His former associates and the citizens of the Town regard his passing as a great loss;

Whereas, the thanks of this meeting and the community are due Arnold Wakelin for the able manner in which he performed his various appointed and volunteer duties. We sincerely regret his passing;

Whereas, on behalf of the Citizens of Wellesley, this Resolution is being presented as an opportunity to express the esteem in which we hold him as a faithful and devoted citizen: Now, therefore be it

Resolved, That this town meeting, on behalf of the residents and municipal employees of the Town of Wellesley, expresses its deep regret at the passing of R. Arnold Wakelin, Jr. and publicly acknowledges its appreciation for his dedicated service and significant contributions to the citizens of our Town, and further, that the Town Clerk be instructed to record this Resolution in the minutes of this Meeting, and to transmit copies to Mr. Wakelin's family.

REGARDING THE SERVICE OF THE MONTFORD POINT MARINES

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2005

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join Representative LANE EVANS as an original cosponsor, with the Congressional Black Caucus, of this Resolution honoring the Montford Point Marines.

In 1942, President Roosevelt established a presidential directive giving African Americans an opportunity to be recruited into the Marine Corps. These African Americans, from all states, were not sent to the traditional boot camps of Parris Island, South Carolina and San Diego, California. Instead, African-American Marines were segregated—experiencing basic training at Montford Point—a facility at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Approximately 20,000 African-American Marines received basic training at Montford Point between 1942 and 1949.

The initial intent was to discharge these African-American Marines after the war, returning them to civilian life. Attitudes changed as the war progressed. Once given the chance to prove themselves, it became impossible to deny the fact that African-American Marines were just as capable as all other Marines regardless of race, color, creed or national origin.

In July of 1948 President Harry S. Truman issued Executive Order #9981 negating segregation. In September 1949, Montford Marine Camp was deactivated—ending seven years of segregation.

I am joining Congressman EVANS in offering this resolution to recognize their service and sacrifice and to acknowledge today's United States Marine Corps as an excellent opportunity for advancement of persons of all races due to the service and example of the original Montford Point Marines.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2005

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on February 16, 2005 due to the funeral of a close friend. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 35.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF LOU AND GEORGIA POULOS

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2005

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary

of two dear friends, Lou and Georgia Poulos of Phoenix, Arizona. On Jan. 30, 2005, the couple was joined by 150 friends and family members to toast their half-century milestone of matrimony.

Lou Poulos first met Georgia Hotis in the late 1940's during a church outing for teenagers at the Gold Spot bowling alley in Phoenix. During the following years, their relationship blossomed and their courtship began when the couple was in their twenties. Although it was initially Georgia's beauty and Lou's sense of humor that sparked the mutual attraction, the couple's shared values as first generation Greek-Americans and members of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, paved the way for their lasting connection.

Seven years later, the sweethearts were married in the Greek Orthodox Church on January 30, 1955. The couple held their wedding reception at the Westward Ho Hotel, an historic hotel in Phoenix located across the street from the bowling alley where they first met. In 1960, the newlyweds built a home in Phoenix where they reared their three children, Deanne, Jim, and Alex, and where they still reside today, nearly forty-five years later. The Poulos family has now proudly expanded to include Jim's wife, Tracy, Alex's wife, Shelli, and Alex and Shelli's five-year-old triplets, Sela, Ari and Alex.

As Lou continued to build his liquor store chain, Georgia managed the household, juggling her children's dance classes, piano lessons, Little League baseball, and Pop Warner football. As their son Jim fondly recalled, Lou and Georgia made many sacrifices to ensure the best education and opportunities for their children.

Despite their busy family lives, Lou and Georgia have remained active in the community throughout their years together. For 47 years, Lou served as the secretary/treasurer for the Arizona License and Beverage Association, and since his retirement, he continues to serve as an officer for the state licensed beverage lobbying organization. Georgia worked as a director for two nonprofit organizations. Over the years, the couple has also served on their parish council, the Men's Club, and Women's Guild at Brophy College Preparatory school, as well as participating in and donating to many charitable fundraisers.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring and celebrating 50 years of marriage between Lou and Georgia Poulos, a union built on a devotion to each other and unconditional love for family. I have had the privilege of knowing this loving couple for decades, and have witnessed the strong sense of family values, self-sacrifice, and commitment to community that defined their lives together. As a longtime friend, it is with great joy that I extend my congratulations to Lou and Georgia Poulos and their beloved family, and I wish them many more years of wedded happiness.

CHINA'S PROPOSED ANTI-SECESSION LAW

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2005

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong concern over China's proposed anti-secession law that it plans to include in its March 2005 agenda of the National People's Congress.

This anti-secession law is highly provocative, and needlessly moves cross-strait relations away from dialogue and possibly towards open confrontation. I am particularly concerned about the law's assumption that China and Taiwan are now unified and how the law sets up a legal framework for retaliation if Taiwan declares independence. Under this proposed law, China could claim the legal right to push for unification of Taiwan by force, which is the worst possible scenario.

The 23 million people of Taiwan are understandably very upset over this proposed law. As we all know, the people of Taiwan live in a full-fledged democracy and enjoy the highest standards of freedom and human rights. We remember a similar reaction and back-lash by the citizens of Hong Kong when they learned about the enactment of the Article 23 anti-secession laws. While claiming the theory of "one country, two systems," it appears that Beijing's implementation of its theory may result in the blocking of democratic reforms and the undermining of autonomous self-governance.

Certainly any country has the right to enact their own domestic laws, but I do not feel that any country should use their domestic laws as justification to suppress or intimidate democracy abroad. While the President spoke very eloquently of promoting democracy and liberty abroad in his Inaugural Address, we must remember that our country still has a solemn duty to defend democracy and liberty.

I hope the Chinese leaders will be wise to not adopt this anti-secession law in March. I also urge the international community to join us to voice their disapproval of this provocative law. Inaction by the world will likely send a wrong signal to Beijing.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF GRANTS PASS ROTARY AND THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2005

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary commit-

ment to service, community, and humanitarianism displayed by the members of Rotary International as the organization celebrates its 100th anniversary this month.

One hundred years ago, a lawyer in Chicago, Illinois, embarked on an effort to create a professional club that captured the same friendly spirit he felt in the small towns of his youth; a club that would make service a priority, generosity a regular occurrence, and hard work a way of life. This idea was welcomed throughout the United States with clubs sprouting coast to coast within the first decade, and throughout the rest of the world with clubs forming on six continents by 1921.

Today, Rotary International is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders—individuals committed to humanitarianism, high ethical standards, and civic involvement.

I have been a proud member of Rotary since October 1987, and while my work here in Washington, D.C. keeps me from attending all the meetings of my Hood River, Oregon club, I make every attempt to go when I am home. And as I commute home to Oregon each week from our Nation's capital, I am able to attend many meetings at clubs in the twenty counties throughout my sprawling district.

There are approximately 1.2 million Rotarians in over 31,000 clubs located in 166 countries. And in the United States, there are nearly 400,000 Rotarians in more than 7,500 clubs.

The Grants Pass Rotary, located in Oregon's beautiful Rogue Valley, is one such club. Founded in 1924, Grants Pass Rotary has celebrated over 80 years of dedication and service to the local community as well as the world abroad. Under the recent leadership of Georgette Brown, and her predecessors before her, the club has done a great deal for the area.

Throughout the years, Grants Pass Rotarians have conducted projects with their dedication, time, energy, and resources. These projects have covered a variety of areas: recognition of students in middle and elementary school excelling in their academic endeavors; the initial funding and continued support of The Riverside West All Sports Park, a fabulous facility for all Grants Pass citizens and visitors to enjoy; the development of Morrison Centennial Park; the Grants Pass Rotary Invitational Track Meet held at Grants Pass High School, an event for students throughout the state and northern California; and events for foreign exchange students visiting America.

Internationally, the commitment of Rotarians is as strong. With humanitarian and educational programs for communities in all parts of the globe, Rotary Clubs have made a difference in everything from disaster relief to the advancement of democracy. A major focus of Rotary International is the global eradication of polio, a goal that the organization hopes to

meet this year. In 1985 they launched the PolioPlus program to protect children against the disease. Rotary, along with groups such as the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and various governments throughout the world, has achieved a 99 percent reduction in the number of polio cases worldwide.

Their work and generosity has benefited youth, seniors, the impoverished, the disabled, the disheartened, and those devastated by disease, tragedy and natural disaster. I am proud to be a Rotarian and proud of the work that Rotary clubs throughout my district do on an ongoing basis.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to share with my colleagues the generosity and spirit of service that is exemplified by the members of Grants Pass Rotary. May those of us in the Congress pay special attention to the motto of this organization and conduct ourselves here in a manner of "Service Before Self."

THE ATROCITIES IN DARFUR

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2005

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the heinous acts in Darfur. To date, almost two and a half million people in Darfur and Chad have been affected by the atrocities and as many as 300,000 individuals have been killed.

I commend the efforts already made to assist the people of Darfur. Millions in aid have been donated worldwide, including \$550 million from the United States. Peacekeeping efforts are underway from the African Union, the United Nations, and other organizations. I applaud the Sudanese for their commendable efforts to end the violence by signing the Peace Agreement in January. Unfortunately it is not enough.

Although the humanitarian aid and the peace agreement are steps in the right direction, it has not prevented people from being killed, raped, torn from their homes and left to starve. People are already fighting over water due to drought and a food shortage is imminent.

The international community must take stronger action. I call upon the United Nations Security Council to pass a meaningful resolution in the coming weeks, a resolution that will be consequential in the lives of the people of Darfur. The UN has already described the situation in Darfur as "the worst humanitarian and human rights situation in the world." It is time they treat the situation as such.